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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

CARL J. KUNASEK **CHAIRMAN** JIM IRVIN

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COMMISSIONER WILLIAM A. MUNDELL

COMMISSIONER

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF ITS STRANDED COST RECOVERY

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING OF TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY OF UNBUNDLED TARIFFS PURSUANT TO A.A.C. R14-2-1601 et seg.

IN THE MATTER OF COMPETITION IN THE PROVISIONS OF ELECTRIC SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF ARIZONA.

DOCKET NO. E-01933A-98-0471

DOCKET NO. E-01933A-97-0772

DOCKET NO. RE-00000C-94-165

NOTICE OF FILING

The Residential Utility Consumer Officer ("RUCO") hereby provides notice of filing the Testimony of Greg Patterson on the Proposed Settlement, in the above-referenced matter.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 30th day of June, 1999.

Adizona Generation Commission 24 DOCKETED

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DOUNETED BY

Chief Counsel

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7	AN ORIGINAL AND TEN COPIES of the
2	foregoing filed this 30 th day of June, 1999 with:
3	Docket Control Division Arizona Corporation Commission
4	1200 West Washington Phoenix, Arizona 85007
5	COPIES of the foregoing hand delivered/mailed
6	this 30 th day of June, 1999 to:
7	Jerry Rudibaugh, Chief Hearing Officer Hearing Division
8	Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington
9	Phoenix, Arizona 85007
10	Paul Bullis, Chief Counsel Legal Division
11	Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington
12	Phoenix, Arizona 85007
13	Ray Williamson, Acting Director Utilities Division
14	Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington
15	Phoenix, Arizona 85007
16	Service list for Docket No. RE-00000C-94-0165
17	
8	By <u>Cheryl Haulob</u> Cheryl Fraulob
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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

CARL J. KUNASEK CHAIRMAN JIM IRVIN COMMISSIONER WILLIAM A. MUNDELL COMMISSIONER DOCKET NO. E-01933A-98-0471 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY) FOR APPROVAL OF ITS STRANDED COST RECOVERY. DOCKET NO. E-01933A-97-0772 IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING OF TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY OF) **UNBUNDLED TARIFFS PURSUANT TO** A.A.C. R14-2-1601 et seq.

IN THE MATTER OF COMPETITION IN THE PROVISIONS OF ELECTRIC SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF ARIZONA.

DOCKET NO. RE-00000C-94-165

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

GREG PATTERSON

ON BEHALF OF THE
RESIDENTIAL UTILITY CONSUMER OFFICE

JUNE 30, 1999

Direct Testimony of Greg Patterson Docket Nos. E-01933A-98-0471 et al. Please state your name, occupation, and business address. Q. My name is Greg Patterson. I am the Director of the Residential Utility Consumer Office ("RUCO") located at 2828 North Central Avenue, Suite 1200, Phoenix, Arizona 85004. I am also a Certified Public Accountant. Please state your educational background and qualifications in the utility regulation field. Q. Appendix A, which is attached to this testimony, describes my educational background Α. and qualifications. What is your position on the Tucson Electric Power Company ("TEP") settlement? Q. The TEP settlement is good for residential consumers and I support it. How will the settlement benefit residential customers? Q. It is unclear how much residential consumers will benefit from competition, but this A. settlement provides an opportunity to do so. The settlement provides for 1 percent rate decreases on July 1, 1999 and again on July 1, 2000, followed by a rate freeze through 2008. This will allow all residential consumers, including those who remain on standard offer service, to benefit from competition. The settlement provides that TEP shareholders are at risk if the fixed recovery mechanism fails to collect \$450 million by the end of 2008. In addition, the settlement provides that all stranded cost recovery terminates after 2008. No rate case will be required for customers—both competitive and standard offer—to experience the rate decrease.

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Direct Testimony of Greg Patterson Docket Nos. E-01933A-98-0471 et al.

The settlement also provides a benefit for residential customers who desire to enter the competitive market, in that they are given a larger adder (a recognition that they are more expensive to serve) than other classes of customers. As a result of a larger adder, residential customers will experience a greater margin in which they can shop for competitive generation. This will provide increased opportunities for residential customers to participate in the competitive market.

The settlement allows continued funding of TEP's low income programs. This will allow the Commission to protect consumers through programs that have an assured funding mechanism provided in the settlement.

TEP also agrees to withdraw its various court appeals.

- Q. What was RUCO's position on the previous TEP settlement?
- A. RUCO opposed the previous settlement.
- Q. Why?
- A. The previous agreements were negotiated without significant input from consumer interests. The rate decreases from these agreements were too small. The stranded asset recovery did not expire. The proposed sale of generating assets to APS from was problematic. The proposal that TEP become the owner of the high voltage transmission within Arizona did not seem workable.

Direct Testimony of Greg Patterson Docket Nos. E-01933A-98-0471 et al.

- Q. How does this settlement differ from the last one?
- A. Consumers were invited to participate this time. The rate decreases are larger and more broadly based. The stranded asset recovery mechanism expires in 2008. TEP shareholders are now at risk for a portion of the \$450 million stranded cost to be collected via the fixed surcharge. The settlement provides residential customers greater opportunities to participate in the competitive market. The proposed sale of generating assets to APS from TEP has been eliminated. The proposal that TEP become the owner of the high voltage transmission has also been eliminated.
- Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- A. Yes.

APPENDIX A

GREG PATTERSON

Education:

University of Arizona BSBA Accounting

With Distinction 1985

Certification:

Certified Public Accountant

Experience:

Residential Utility Consumer Office (RUCO) 1995 - present

• Director

Represent residential consumer interests in electric, gas, telecommunications and water rate cases.